

BILL NO. 77-110 (as amended)

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 77-110 (as amended)

Introduced by Council President Freeman at request of County Executive

Legislative Day No. 77-32

Date: October 18, 1977

AN ACT to add new Section 14-27.1, heading, Firearms, to Article 4, heading, Weapons, of Chapter 14, heading, Morals and Conduct, all of the Harford County Code; said new Section 14-27.1 to provide that it shall be unlawful to discharge a firearm within residential areas in Harford County; to provide for certain exceptions thereto and definitions; and to provide penalties for the violation thereof; and generally relating to the discharge of firearms in residential areas in Harford County, Maryland.

By the Council, October 18, 1977

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: November 15, 1977

at: 7:30 P.M.

By Order: Angela Markowski, Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice of time and place of hearing and Title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on November 15, 1977 and concluded on November 15, 1977.

Angela Markowski, Secretary

BILL NO. 77-110 (as amended)

1 Section 1. *Be It Enacted By The County Council Of Harford County,*  
2 *Maryland,* that new Section 14-27.1, heading, Firearms, be, and  
3 it is hereby added to Article 4, heading, Weapons, of Chapter 14,  
4 heading, Morals and Conduct, all of the Harford County Code, all  
5 to read as follows:

6 CHAPTER 14. MORALS AND CONDUCT.

7 ARTICLE 4. WEAPONS.

8 Section 14-27.1. Firearms.

9 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to fire or  
10 discharge any pistol; air pistol; gas-propelled pistol; rifle;  
11 air rifle; gas-propelled rifle or shotgun within any residential  
12 area in Harford County, Maryland.

13 (b) Residential area is defined as a grouping of  
14 homes not less than six (6) in number and not more than two  
15 hundred feet (200') from one another. Zoning classifications  
16 shall not determine what a residential area is. Perimeter limits  
17 of any residential area shall be defined by the posting of  
18 appropriate signs. No perimeter limit shall be more than five  
19 hundred feet (500') from the grouping of homes.

20 (c) In addition to appropriate signs designating a  
21 residential area; accurate maps designating residential areas  
22 shall be posted in the offices of County law enforcement agencies;  
23 and also be made available to the public through the County  
24 Government offices.

25 (a) IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO FIRE OR  
26 DISCHARGE ANY FIREARM WITHIN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) YARDS OF A  
27 DWELLING HOUSE, RESIDENCE, OR OTHER BUILDING OR CAMP USED FOR THE  
28 PURPOSE OF DOMICILE BY HUMAN BEINGS IN HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND,  
29 WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE OWNER, OR TENANT WHEN  
30 THE OWNER DOES NOT RESIDE ON THE PREMISES.

31 (1) WITHIN THIS SECTION, A FIREARM SHALL BE  
32 DEFINED AS ANY PISTOL, AIR PISTOL, GAS-PROPELLED PISTOL, REVOLVER,

1 RIFLE, AIR RIFLE, GAS-PROPELLED RIFLE, OR SHOTGUN.

2           (d)(b) Nothing in this Section shall be held to apply  
3 to or prohibit the discharge or firing of any such firearms on  
4 permanently located; properly posted and bona fide target ranges;  
5 the location of which has been filed with the police department;  
6 nor to the firing or discharging of any such firearms if the  
7 same is reasonably necessary for the defense of life or property;  
8 NOR SHALL THIS SECTION APPLY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE  
9 PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES; nor to the discharging or firing of  
10 any such firearms on any military occasion when the same is done  
11 under the orders of an officer in command thereof; nor prohibit  
12 the discharging of a shotgun by a licensed hunter, properly  
13 hunting in season.

14           (e)(c) Any person found guilty of violating any provision  
15 of this Section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall  
16 be fined a sum of not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)  
17 and/or imprisoned for a period of thirty (30) days, or both.

18 Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that if any provision or  
19 provisions of this Act, or the particular application thereof,  
20 shall be held to be invalid, the remaining provisions and their  
21 application shall not be affected thereby. Should any provision  
22 hereof be inconsistent with any rule, regulation or policy of any  
23 other agency having jurisdiction, such provision shall be invalid,  
24 but the remaining provisions and their application shall not be  
25 affected thereby.

26 Section 3. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that this Act shall take  
27 effect sixty (60) calendar days from the date it becomes law.

28 EFFECTIVE:  
29  
30  
31  
32

77-110

AS AMENDED

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

~~XXXXXX~~  
~~Passed~~ \_\_\_\_\_ (with amendments)

Failed of Passage LSD 77-38 (December 20, 1977)

By order

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive  
for his approval this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_.M.

\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

Date \_\_\_\_\_

77-110

AS AMENDED